



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

MAR 3 1997

03-17-97

SUMMARY: Declared disaster areas for recent storm damage in Arkansas.

Dear Guaranty Agency Director:

On March 2, President Clinton declared the following nine counties in Arkansas to be disaster areas because of severe storms, tornadoes, and flood-related problems that began on March 1:

Arkansas: Clark, Cross, Greene, Hempstead, Jackson, Lonoke, Nevada, Pulaski, and Saline.

The list of designated disaster areas for borrower-initiated 90-day forbearances under the guidelines first outlined in the January 14, 1997 "Dear Guaranty Agency Director" letter is complete as of the date of this letter. We will notify you if additional areas are designated by the President or the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) after the date of this letter. Lenders and guaranty agencies may contact the Department's toll-free number at 1-800-433-7327, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST for further updates. This letter has also been sent to each regional office of the Department, plus the National Council of Higher Education Loan Programs, Inc., the Consumer Bankers Association, and the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators.

Sincerely,

Pamela A. Moran
Chief, Loans Branch
Policy Development Division
Student Financial Assistance Programs